(i) Raising of the wage ceiling for eligibility to bonus and enhancement in the quantum of bonus payable under the payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

(ii) Making the ESI Scheme optional for the industrial workers.

The question of raising the wage ceiling and increasing the quantum of bonus under the payment of Bonus Act, 1965 has been examined. But in view of the over all financial position of the country, it has been decided continue with the existing limits.

The ESI Scheme is a Social Security Scheme based upon the concept of "pooling of risks and resources". Therefore, the question of making the scheme optional does not arise.

Shortage of coal

4042. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an actute shortage of coal used in foundries in the western region of Maharashtra, eastern region of Bihar and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action Government propose to take for restoring the regular supply of coal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c) Coal India Limited (CIL) have reported that they are not aware of any shortages of foundry coke in the Western Region of Maharashtra, Eastern Region of Bihar or in West Bengal. Apart from CIL, foundry coke is also being produced in the private sector and is also allowed to be imported.

Supply of Hard Coke is arranged by CIL by rail and road to the linked consumers against sponsorship, within the earmarked wagon ceiling limits and as per the programmes submitted. In case of rail shortfall, supplies by road are also arranged. The quantity of Hard Coke supplied for the year 1991-92 and during the period April-September, 1992 to various consumers in the State of Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal are given below:—

(Figures in '000' tonnes)
Date Provisional

	Maharashtra	Bihar	West Benga
1991-92	18	38	20
April—September, 1992	6	20	8

Providing employment in new coal projects

4043. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:
SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide 30 per cent employment to unemployed in the case of new coal projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b) According to guidelines being followed by Coal India Limited to the extent new employment opportunities get created in a project for unskilled and

semi skilled categories, these are reserved for land oustee families. Only remaining posts, if any, after meeting the claims of land oustees are filled through local employment exchanges.

कोयला खनन क्षेत्र विकास प्राधिकरण

4044. **श्री गया सिंह :** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कोयला खान क्षेत्र विकास प्राधिकरण, धनबाद भारत कोकिंग कोल लिमिटेड के सम्पूर्ण क्षेत्र में जल आपूर्ति, और जन-स्वास्थ्य का कार्य करता है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस प्राधिकरण के खर्चों की पूर्ति के लिए भारत कोकिंग कोल लिमिटेड, कोयला उपभोक्ताओं से वसूल किये गये टनेज शेष के रूप में भुगतान करता है ;

(ग) क्या कोयला खान विकास प्राधिकरण अधिनियम, 1986 के अंतर्गत टनेज शेष की वसूली पर उच्चतम न्यायालय के आदेश द्वारा रोक लगा दी गयी थी; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो प्राधिकरण को इसका भुगतान रोक दिए जाने के क्या कारण हैं और जनहित में इस प्रक्रिया को कब तक पुन: शुरू किया जायेगा ?

कोयला मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री एल. बी. नयमेगौड़ा) : (क) और (ख) भारत कोकिंग कोल लिमिटेड ने यह सूचित किया है कि कोयला खान क्षेत्र विकास प्राधिकरण (सी.एम.ए.डी.ए.) कंपनी क्षेत्र में जल-आपूर्ति सेवाएं प्रदान कर रही हैं। कोयला कंपनियां जल आपूर्ति के लिए सी.एम.ए.डी.ए. को अलग से भुगतान कर रही है। कोयला कंपनियां पूर्व में कोयला खान क्षेत्र विकास प्राधिकरण को संबंधित कोयला क्षेत्रों के कोयले कोक के प्रेषण पर टन के आधार पर उपकर का भुगतान कर रही थी। इस उपकर को कोयला/कोक के खरीददारों से वसूल किया जा रहा है।

(ग) और (घ) भारत कोकिंग कोल लि० से प्राप्त की गई कानूनी राय के अनुसार उच्चतम न्यायालय ने सामान्य विवाद का निपटारा करते हुए यह कहा है कि राज्य सरकारें कोयले पर उपकर लगाए जाने के लिए प्राधिकृत नहीं है। तदनुसार भारत कोकिंग कोल लि० ने इस उपकर को कोयले के खरीददारों से वसूलना और इसका भुगतान सी.एम.ए.डी.ए. को करना बंद कर दिया है।

Enforcement of Apprenticeship Act in Coal establishments

4045. SHRIMATI KAILASHPATI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the 49 Establishments falling under the control of his Ministry which are covered by the Apprenticeship Act, 1961;

(b) what are the names and code numbers (National Classification of Occupations) of each and every Trade and the trade-wise break-up of Apprentices and Management Trainees who were taken/engaged by the said Establishments during the year 1992;

(c) the names of the newspapers and dates of advertisements given for inviting applications for selection of Apprentices where this method was adopted; and

(d) the names of the Employment Exchanges with the dates of requisition sent for sponsoring names of candidates desirous of selection as Apprentices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.